

SC Annual School District Report Card Summary

Pickens School District

Grades: PK-12

Enrollment: 16,557

Superintendent: Dr. Henry Hunt

Board Chair: Jim Shelton

PERFORMANCE

Comprehensive detail, including definitions of ratings, performance criteria, and explanations of status, is available on www.ed.sc.gov and www.eoc.sc.gov as well as school and school district websites. Printed versions are available from school districts upon request.

YEAR	ABSOLUTE RATING	GROWTH RATING	PALMETTO GOLD General Performance	AND SILVER AWARD Closing the Gap	AYP STATUS	NCLB IMPROVEMENT STATUS
2010	Good	Good	N/A	N/A	Not Met	CA
2009	Average	Average	N/A	N/A	Not Met	CA
2008	Below Average	At-Risk	N/A	N/A	Not Met	CDI

ABSOLUTE RATINGS OF DISTRICTS WITH STUDENTS LIKE OURS*

EXCELLENT 1	GOOD 7	AVERAGE 5	BELOW AVERAGE 0	AT-RISK 0
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* Ratings are calculated with data available by 03/24/2011. Districts with Students Like Ours are Districts with Poverty Indices of no more than 5% above or below the index for this district.

PASS

PASS	2010 Reading % Met or above	2010 Math % Met or above	2010 Science % Met or above	2010 Social Studies % Met or above	2010 Writing % Met or above
District	79.3%	75.1%	76.1%	76.9%	79.3%
Districts with Students Like Ours**	76.8%	73.9%	70.7%	74.0%	75.4%
Average District	74.0%	70.6%	67.4%	71.0%	72.0%

PASS	2010 Reading % Exemplary	2010 Math % Exemplary	2010 Science % Exemplary	2010 Social Studies % Exemplary	2010 Writing % Exemplary
District	46.7%	36.7%	26.6%	36.2%	40.8%
Districts with Students Like Ours**	43.0%	35.7%	24.1%	32.7%	38.0%
Average District	39.7%	32.1%	21.9%	29.4%	33.4%

HSAP

HSAP: 2nd Year Students	Passed 2 Subtests (%)	Passed 1 Subtest (%)	Passed No Subtests (%)
District	82.8%	8.7%	8.6%
Districts with Students Like Ours**	81.4%	10.2%	8.3%

HSAP Passage Rate by Spring 2010 (%)

District	91.5%
Districts with Students Like Ours**	91.3%

End of Course Test Passage Rate (%)

District	67.8%
Districts with Students Like Ours**	68.4%

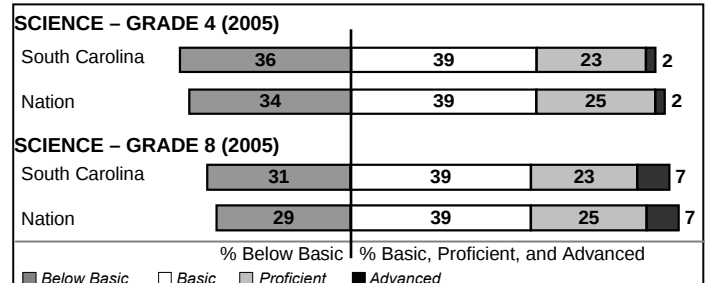
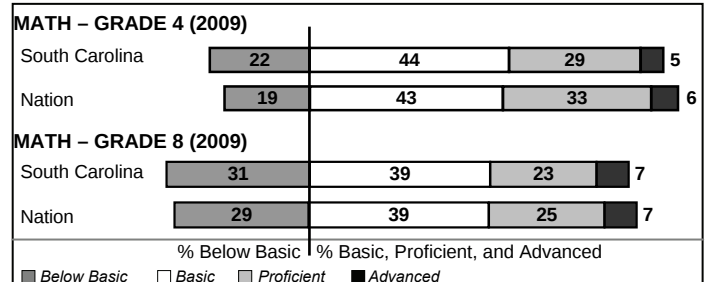
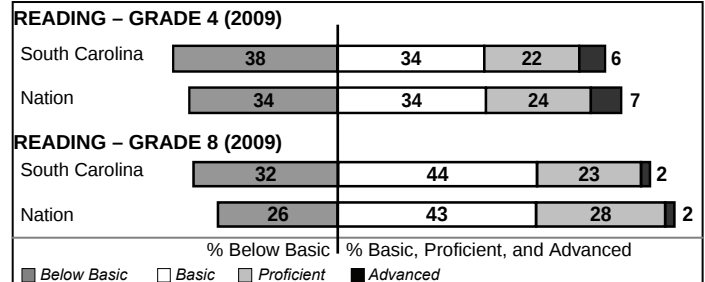
On-Time Graduation Rate (%)

District	71.2%
Districts with Students Like Ours**	73.8%

** Districts with Students Like Ours are districts with Poverty Indices of no more than 5% above or below the index for this district.

NAEP*

* Performance reported for SC and nation, data not available at school level. Percentages at NAEP Achievement Levels.



SC PERFORMANCE GOAL

2010 Goal:

By 2010, SC's student achievement will be ranked in the top half of the states nationally. To achieve this goal, we must become one of the fastest improving systems in the country.

2020 Vision:

By 2020 all students will graduate with the knowledge and skills necessary to compete successfully in the global economy, participate in a democratic society and contribute positively as members of families and communities.

Abbreviations Key

N/A Not Applicable N/AV Not Available N/C Not Collected N/R Not Reported I/S Insufficient Sample TBD To be determined
NI Newly Identified CDI Continuing District Improvement CA Corrective Action RP Plan to Restructure R Restructure DELAY District Improvement Status HOLD District Improvement Status

Pickens School District

DISTRICT PROFILE

	Our District	Change from Last Year	Districts with Students Like Ours	Median District
Students (n=16,557)				
Retention rate	1.8%	Down from 3.0%	1.9%	2.3%
Attendance rate	95.4%	Down from 95.7%	96.2%	95.8%
Eligible for gifted and talented	21.0%	Up from 18.4%	18.4%	14.3%
With disabilities other than speech	10.1%	No Change	9.8%	10.5%
Older than usual for grade	3.3%	Up from 3.2%	3.3%	4.5%
Out-of-school suspensions or expulsions for violent and/or criminal offenses	0.3%	Down from 0.8%	0.6%	0.7%
Enrolled in AP/IB programs	20.0%	Up from 18.7%	19.5%	12.1%
Successful on AP/IB exams	70.4%	Up from 69.0%	51.4%	50.0%
Eligible for LIFE Scholarship	49.8%	Down from 52.0%	38.7%	31.4%
Enrolled in adult education GED or diploma programs	222	Up from 194	82	47
Completions in adult education GED or diploma programs	130	Up from 129	75	29
Annual dropout rate	4.1%	Down from 5.5%	3.5%	3.1%
Teachers (n=1,059)				
Teachers with advanced degrees	60.6%	Down from 61.0%	59.2%	58.8%
Continuing contract teachers	86.0%	Up from 82.8%	80.6%	81.5%
Teachers with emergency or provisional certificates	2.0%	Down from 2.3%	2.8%	4.0%
Teachers returning from previous year	91.3%	Down from 91.9%	90.8%	89.3%
Teacher attendance rate	95.7%	Down from 95.9%	95.7%	95.3%
Average teacher salary*	\$47,908	Up 0.8%	\$47,878	\$46,618
Vacancies for more than nine weeks	0.0%	Down from 0.2%	0.0%	0.2%
Classes not taught by highly qualified teachers	0.1%	Down from 0.8%	0.2%	2.0%
Professional development days/teacher	12.4 days	Down from 12.6 days	13.0 days	12.6 days
District				
Superintendent's years at district	1.0	Up from 0.0	4.0	3.0
Student-teacher ratio in core subjects	22.8 to 1	Down from 22.9 to 1	22.3 to 1	20.9 to 1
Prime instructional time	90.1%	Down from 90.7%	91.3%	89.9%
Dollars spent per pupil**	\$7,895	Down 0.3%	\$8,693	\$9,364
Percent of expenditures for teacher salaries**	56.8%	Up from 54.9%	56.2%	53.3%
Percent of expenditures for instruction**	59.0%	Up from 58.4%	58.5%	56.3%
Opportunities in the arts	Excellent	No Change	Excellent	Excellent
Number of schools	25	No Change	19	9
Portable classrooms	7.8%	Down from 8.8%	3.8%	2.4%
Average age in years of school facilities	34 Years	No Change	22 Years	27 Years
Number of schools with SACS accreditation	25.0	No Change	13.0	8.0
Parents attending conferences	98.0%	Up from 97.1%	97.3%	97.1%
Average administrator salary	\$77,305	No Change	\$79,613	\$79,261
Number of charter schools	0	No Change	0	0
% of AYP objectives met	N/A		N/A	N/A

* Length of contract = 185+ days.

** Prior year audited financial data available.

RESIDENTIAL TREATMENT FACILITIES STUDENT PERFORMANCE

	PASS	HSAP	End-of-Course Tests
Passage Rate	I/S	N/A	14.3%

CHARTER SCHOOLS IN DISTRICT

School Name	Absolute Rating	Growth Rating	Adequate Yearly Progress
There are no charter schools in this district.			

REPORT OF SUPERINTENDENT

Although difficult budget decisions impacted all areas in 2009-2010, the School District of Pickens County continued its strong commitment to students and their successes. Through the combined efforts of educators and parents, we moved forward in achieving our goal of challenging each student academically "to reach his or her individual potential growth" as evidenced by test scores and the schools' many accolades.

Eighteen schools earned Palmetto Gold or Palmetto Silver either for achievement or for closing achievement gaps. Nine of the schools earned recognition in both areas. Students also performed well on college entrance exams. On the ACT, SDPC ranked first among South Carolina districts and exceeded the national average. Additionally, the district ranked first in the state and exceeded the national average in three of the ACT's four tests: science, reading, and English. On the SAT, SDPC's composite score of 1525 was 32 points above the national average.

In our instructional program, we maintained our focus on high-quality learning opportunities that meet the needs of our diverse learners. By utilizing our student data, we targeted the needs of students and teachers with instructional practices and professional development. Our state-of-the-art technology was a great benefit as we used webinars and academic departments on our website for professional learning. We also provided online resources for parents and virtual learning opportunities for students.

A major step in Building Futures, the district's \$365 million comprehensive facilities plan, took place when eleven renovated elementary schools opened on time. The renovations eliminated 21 portables – 15,000 square feet – while 54,816 square feet were added. Groundbreaking ceremonies for Chastain Road Elementary and the Pickens County Career and Technology Center, the last of our seven new schools, took place. At Dacusville Elementary, Easley High, Liberty High, Pickens High, and the Pickens County Career and Technology Center, ceremonial first blocks were laid. Construction of all seven new schools was underway by the end of June.

To cope with continued state budget reductions, the district was forced to take drastic action in developing next year's budget. Elementary literacy specialist positions were eliminated, and scheduled technology upgrades were postponed. After 105 certified and classified positions were eliminated and a reduction in force process was implemented, many employees were either terminated or moved to another location within the district.

With the support of our families and the strong commitment of our professional educators, we will maintain our focus, doing everything we can to provide the best environments and opportunities for our students, staff, and community in spite of the limited resources available.

Henry H. Hunt, Ph.D., Superintendent

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